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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 SIL-01 LAB-04 PA-02 PRS-01

USIA-15 /041 W
---------- 067196
R 141247Z APR 76
FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7353
INFO FURNPS/USMISSION OECD PARIS 2513
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY OSLO

UNCLAS STOCKHOLM 2065

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAID, SW
SUBJECT: TIED AID CREATES JOBS IN SWEDEN

1. IN A SPEECH DELIVERED IN THE PROVINCIAL TOWN OF NORRKOPING APRIL 10 SWEDISH AID MINISTER GERTRUD SIGURDSEN SAID THAT SWEDISH FOREIGN AID CREATES ABOUT 15,000 JOB OPPORTUNITIES ANNUALLY. COUNTRIES RECEIVING AID UNDER BILATERAL AGREEMENTS PURCHASED SWEDISH GOODS WORTH SKR 850 MILLION (ROUGHLY $235 MILLION) DURING FY 1975 AND WORTH ABOUT SKR 1 BILLION (ROUGHLY $235 MILLION) IN FY 1976. THESE PURCHASES CREATED ABOUT 10,000 JOBS. PURCHASES GENERATED BY SWEDISH AID CHANNELED THROUGH INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS CREATED ANOTHER 5,000 JOBS. EFFECTS WHICH SHE NOTED WERE DUE IN IMPORTANT PART TO TIED AID.

2. MRS. SIGURDSEN SAID THAT WHILE SHE AGREED IN PRINCIPLE THAT ALL AID SHOULD BE UNTIED, SHE DID NOT THINK IT WAS WRONG TO DRAW ATTENTION TO THE FACT THAT SWEDEN'S FOREIGN AID PROVIDES EMPLOYMENT AT HOME.

3. EDITORIAL COMMENT IN EXPRESSEN (INDEPENDENT), APRIL 11, REMARKED THAT EVER SINCE MRS. SIGURDSEN BECAME SWEDEN'S AID MINISTER IN 1973, A GROWING PORTION
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OF SWEDISH FOREIGN AID HAS BEEN TIED TO THE PURCHASE

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OF SWEDISH GOODS. PREVIOUSLY, THE NEWSPAPER COMMENTED, THE SYSTEM OF TIED AID HAD SUPPORT ONLY FROM SWEDISH INDUSTRY AND FROM THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY.

4. COMMENT: EXPRESSEN IS QUITE CORRECT. TIED AID AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL SWEDISH BILATERAL AID HAS BEEN STEADILY INCREASING:

	COMMODITY AID (TIED)	TOTAL BILATERAL AID	COMMODITY AID AS PERCENT OF BILATERAL AID
	(SKR MILLIONS)		
FY 1974	200	960	20.8
FY 1975	330	1298	25.4
FY 1976	500	1736	28.8
FY 1977 (PROPOSED)	600	1987	30.2

SOCIAL-DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT, COMMITTED TO MAINTAINING FULL EMPLOYMENT IN SWEDEN, IS NOT NEGLECTING DOMESTIC AID EFFECTS OF ITS FOREIGN AID PROGRAMS.
OWENS

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